

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5621
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2001
NATIONAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the incentives given to various institutions and individuals to contribute funds in the National Fund for Rural Development (NFRD);
- (b) whether the Government propose to make this scheme more effective;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) the funds allocated under NFRD during 1999-2000 and till date; and
- (f) the quantum of funds disbursed under this Fund during the said period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA)

(a) Cent-per-cent income-tax exemption on the amount of donation has been provided to the donors under Section 80 GGA and 35 CCA of the Income Tax Act, 1961 through an amendment of the Direct Tax Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987. The donors while making donations to the Fund can recommend a rural development project of their choice, its locality and the implementing agency through which the programme may be undertaken.

(b),(c)&(d) Yes, Sir. Government is considering to reformulate this Scheme to make it more effective.

(e) The National Fund for Rural Development (NFRD) is a donation based Scheme. Thus, funds are not allocated for this Scheme by the Government.

(f) An amount of Rs. 33,12,600/- has been disbursed to the implementing agencies for implementation of rural development programmes from 1999-2000 till date.